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OCA 1935-89
14 June 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Counterterrorism Center/DDO
National Intelligence Officer for
Counterterrorism/NIC
Associate General Counsel for
Counterterrorism/DDO

FROM:

Legislation Division
Office of Congressional Affairs

STAT

SUBJECT: Aviation Security Legislation

1. Attached for your information is a copy of a report of the House Foreign Affairs Committee (House Report No. 191-59, Part 2 - 31 May 1989) on H.R. 1659, legislation to improve airport security by providing federal funding for the purchase of advanced explosives detection equipment. The Foreign Affairs' amendments to the bill would add a new title, Title II, dealing with international airport security matters and procedural changes growing out of the Pan Am Flight #103 disaster. Although no provisions appear to affect the Agency directly, those of interest are noted below.

2. Present prospects for H.R. 1659 are uncertain as the plan of its sponsors to use airport construction trust fund monies to finance the purchase of the technology in question has been rejected by House leadership.

3. FAA Security Bulletins. Section 210 would require that unless otherwise authorized by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), FAA security bulletins receive limited distribution in diplomatic/consular posts, not be publicly released and not be used to respond to public inquiries.

4. Crisis Management Program. Section 211 (b) directs the Secretary of State to expand training of consular officers to deal with major disasters involving U.S. citizens.

5. Guidelines for International Travelers. Section 212 directs the Secretaries of State and Transportation to publish guidelines to assist travelers in thwarting terrorist activities.

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6. Ground Security Coordinator Briefings. Section 206 directs the FAA to require ground security coordinators of U.S. flag carriers to provide comprehensive security briefings to the "in-flight" security coordinator concerning all relevant threat information.

7. Foreign Air Carrier Security Plan. Section 208 establishes a mechanism to review foreign air carrier security plans and to publish in the Federal Registry a travel advisory regarding those carriers that do not meet their plans.

8. FAA Security Bulletin System. Section 209 directs the FAA to ensure U.S. flag carriers acknowledge receipt of bulletins and report on their actions in response thereto.

10. El Al Security System Study. Section 215 directs the Secretaries of Transportation and State to study and report on the feasibility of adopting El Al Airlines security system.

11. This office will keep you advised as to the status of this legislation.

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Attachment

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